

MAINE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2007

(Approved on February 5, 2007)

Chair Jeffrey Cammack called the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission to order at 1:05 pm in Room 438 of the State House, Augusta. Members present included Stephan Bunker, Chief John Dean, Chief Darrel Fournier, Gerry Gay, Ron Green, Geoffrey Maker, Ed Marks (for David Niklaus), Alex McPhedran, Senator Richard Nass, Harty Norris, Charles Soltan, David Wacker, Leslie Wiles (for Bill Williams) and Susan Pinette (staff). Members excused were Representative Patricia Blanchette, Jay Bradshaw, Robert Gardiner and Vicki Schmidt. Senator Bruce Bryant, Chief Kenneth Desmond and Edward Johnston were absent.

A motion by Steve Bunker, seconded by Charlie Soltan, to accept the December meeting minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Commission members discussed the recording of the meeting minutes. Members agreed the minutes should reflect the general nature of the discussion and members should not be referred to or quoted directly unless the member makes a motion.

Committee Reports

The Spring 2007 Conference Committee reminds members that the Blaine House Conference on Emergency First Response is March 12th and 13th (Monday and Tuesday) at the Bangor Civic Center/Auditorium. Plans include holding day sessions at the Civic Center and vendors in the auditorium. Members suggested holding a general welcoming reception on Monday evening. The 2007 Conference brochure expects to be completed by mid-January.

The Training Facilities Committee reports they have forwarded a copy of the Task Force Report to New England FEMA Director and former Fire Commission member, Art Cleaves. The Task Force will reconvene soon and report on their progress to the Fire Commission.

The Best Practices Committee reminds members that nominations are still being accepted and ask that they be forwarded to the committee as soon as possible. Requirements and nomination forms for Best Practice Award candidates are available on the Fire Commission's website. The committee plans to solicit candidates in the Spring 2007 brochure.

Article III, Section 1 of the Fire Commission's bylaws states- "Elections of officers shall be held at the regularly scheduled meeting in April." Chief Cammack appointed Gerry Gay, Charlie Soltan and Alex McPhedran to serve as members of the Elections Committee and submit candidates to the Fire Commission at the March meeting.

Legislation

Members reviewed a list of bill titles submitted for the 123rd Legislature. There were several bills of interest to the Fire Commission and members agreed to follow their progress this legislative session. The Fire Commission and the Maine Fire Chiefs will appear before the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee on Tuesday, January 9th for a short presentation and to distribute copies of the Training Facilities Task Force Report. Members also discussed regional revitalization and agreed to offer the Fire Commission's assistance to the State Planning Office.

Old Business

The Fire Commission discussed the Maine Fire Service Day at the State House and the pros and cons of holding the event on a non-session day. The Fire Commission had previously reserved Thursday, January 18th but cancelled because of the conflict with the Legislature's Economic bus tours. An alternative date of Monday, January 22nd was considered but members expressed concern that many legislators would not be present at the State House. Members also noted the Legislative Breakfast at the Senator Inn is scheduled for Tuesday, February 6th and that the Fire Commission should focus its efforts on the breakfast.

A motion by Gerry Gay, seconded by Harty Norris, to cancel the Maine Fire Service Day at the State House scheduled for Monday, January 22nd. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

The Final Report of the Task Force to Study Maine's Homeland Security Needs is completed and available at the Maine Legislature's website.

<http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/homesec2006rpt.pdf>

Members were updated on the new rules and regulations regarding E-911 and dispatch centers and PSAPs. Members also discussed dispatcher training and concerns that their training curriculum not focus primarily on law enforcement's needs, rather be all encompassing.

The National Fire Protection Association is sponsoring a round trip bus ride to the annual meeting in Boston on June 3rd, 4th and 5th. More information will be available at the February meeting.

With no further business to come before the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, Chair Cammack adjourned the meeting at 2:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Pinette
Staff

Meeting Schedule and Dates of Interest

<u>Monday, February 5th</u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, February 5th</u>	MEETING	State House	1:00pm
<u>Tuesday, February 6th</u>	Legislative Breakfast	Senator Inn	7am-9:30am
<u>Monday, March 5th</u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, March 5th</u>	MEETING	State House	1:00pm
<u>Monday, March 12th</u>	Spring Conference	BCC **	All Day
<u>Monday, March 12th</u>	Welcoming Reception	BCC **	4pm-7pm
<u>Tuesday, March 13th</u>	Spring Conference	BCC **	All Day
<u>Monday, April 2nd</u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, April 2nd</u>	MEETING ++	State House	1:00pm
<u>Monday, May 7th</u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, May 7th</u>	MEETING	State House	1:00pm
<u>Monday, June 4th</u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, June 4th</u>	MEETING	State House	1:00pm

++ Election of Fire Commission Officers

** Bangor Civic Center